

### Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development

38. Animal husbandry output constitutes over 26 per cent of country's agricultural output. Even though share of agriculture in the GDP has been declining, the value of output from livestock shows an increasing trend. Dairy sector accounts for nearly two third of the animal husbandry output value. Animal husbandry and dairy sector play a prominent role in the rural economy by supplementing the income of rural households, particularly the low income land less and small and marginal farmers. It also provides subsidiary occupation in semi-urban areas and more so to people living in hilly/tribal and drought prone areas where crop output alone may be far too inadequate to provide gainful employment.

39. In 1996-97, the country produced about 68.5 million tonnes of milk. This represents an average annual growth rate of about 4.2 per cent since 1990-91. Table 8.22 shows the trends in milk production and per capita availability.

<b>TABLE 8.22</b>		
<b>Milk Production and per capita Availability</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>Milk Production (Million Tonnes)</b>	<b>Per capita Availability (Grms./day)</b>
1950-51	17.0	124
1960-61	20.0	124
1970-71	22.0	112
1980-81	31.6	128
1990-91	53.9	176
1996-97(P)	68.5	201
1997-98(T)	71.0	204

(P) Provisional                      (T) Target